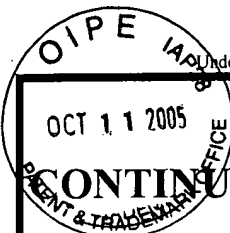


10-12-05

RCE 1616/18 ZW



Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/371,769
Filing Date	August 10, 1999
First Named Inventor	Hacker et al.
Group Art Unit	1616
Examiner Name	Alton Pryor
Attorney Docket Number	514413-3765

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under CFR 1.114.**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on

iii. ☐ Other

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of __ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)

b. ☐ Other

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

b. ☒ Check in the amount of **\$4,360.00** is enclosed for the following:

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) - **\$770.00**

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) - **\$1,590.00** for four (4) month EOT

iii. ☒ Other: **FEE FOR ADDED CLAIMS - 40 INDEPENDENT CLAIMS x \$50/CLAIM = \$2,000.00**

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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01 FC:1801 790.00 OP

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Howard C. Lee	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	48,104
Signature	<i>Howard C. Lee</i>	Date	October 11, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: **Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Name (Print/Type)	Adam M. Ahmed	Mailing Label Number:	EV 723366162 US
Signature	<i>Adam M. Ahmed</i>	Date	October 11, 2005